

PROCEEDINGS
OF THE
ASIATIC SOCIETY OF BENGAL,
FOR AUGUST, 1861.

The Monthly General Meeting of the Asiatic Society of Bengal was held on the 7th instant, A. Grote, Esq., President, in the chair. His Excellency the Governor General was present.

The proceedings of the last meeting were read and confirmed.

Presentations were received :—

1. From Major G. G. Pearse, the following Historical Persian MSS :—

History of the Gukkur race of Hazara, the Punjab and Kashmir, and the supposed descendants of the Satrap of Cyrus the Great. History of Kashmir. History of the district of Hazara.

2. From Mrs. Brandis, of Rangoon, a copy of Voigt's Hortus Suburbanus Caleuttensis.

3. From Bábu Sivaprasád, a copy of his little work on the adaptation of the Roman alphabet to Hindi and Urdu.

4. From Col. Phayre, a wooden looking-glass frame of Burmese manufacture.

5. From T. P. Larkins, Esq., Magistrate of Bograh, a gold coin of rare execution and debased metal of the Gupta series.

6. From Capt. Bates, of the Punjab Infantry, through Lieut.-Col. Thuillier, a Chinese cross bow.

7. From Mr. J. Obbard, a box containing a few Chinese copper coins and some specimens of poisonous beans.

The following note accompanied the presentation :—

"TO W. S. ATKINSON, ESQ.,

Secy. Asiatic Society.

"DEAR SIR,—I beg to forward herewith a small box containing twelve specimens of what is said to be a poisonous bean picked up at

Pekin, and the same as that with which an attempt was made to poison the water-tanks and wells in the vicinity of the allied troops. I do not, of course, vouch for this, but one of the beans has been found to kill a dog.

“There are also in the box twelve coins picked up at the same place. These are probably very common, though unknown to me, but on the chance of their being acceptable to the Society, I beg to forward them to you and remain

“Your’s truly,

“*(Sd.)* J. OBBARD.”

August 3rd, 1861.

8. From Dr. T. Anderson, copies of his works on the Ceylon Acanthaceæ and on the flowering plants of Aden.

9. From Mr. T. F. Peppé, three fragments of the meteorite which fell on the 12th May at Peprassee and Bullooh on the borders of the Sarun district.

Mr. Peppé writes as follows:—

Patna, 12th July.

“A. GROTE, ESQ.

“DEAR SIR,—I have the pleasure to send you some further notes regarding the aërolite which fell on the 12th May last, together with three pieces of it. The larger specimen was obtained from the village of Peprassee, while the two smaller were obtained from a village called Bullooh, about three miles distant from the former, and I would particularly call your attention to the interesting fact that the smaller pieces exactly fit on to one side of the larger piece. This might, I imagine, give some clue to the height above the earth where the explosion took place, and it also shows from the fact of the fractured edges not being oxidised, that the greatest heat (which I take to be the oxidising agent) had been obtained prior to the explosion.

“There is also a singular vein observable in this specimen, which I think note-worthy; it looks as if a fracture had taken place and had been re-cemented again.

“I have ascertained that it does not deerepitate when heated before the blow-pipe, but it is readily oxidised, forming a glistening black surface exactly resembling the black crust at present covering the outside surface of the specimens.

“The polished surface does not show the Weidmanstättian figures, probably from the surface being at the wrong angle, but the particles of native iron are arranged in a reticulated or cellular manner.

“The depositions of the men who first saw the specimens forwarded are as follows :—

“Regarding the larger specimen, Bunnoo Bin Athert says :—

“‘On Sunday, the 12th May, as I was sitting in a field in company of a number of villagers, we were startled by three loud reports which were succeeded by a rumbling sound which gradually died away. We were on the East side of the village, and our attention was immediately attracted by a cloud of dust which rose from the ground at a distance of 15 biggahs from us. There was nothing seen to fall, but there was a whistling sound something like that which accompanies a bullet, but much louder. We rushed to the spot and found the stone exactly in its present state as far as I can judge. The ground had been thrown out all round it for about two feet. For two days nobody touched it, as it was said to be Mahadeo. A faqeer then brought it to the place near the village from whence your servant, 15 days after, took it away. There was no cloud at the time, and it was very hot and calm. Every one was very much frightened and the cattle all ran away.’

“With regard to the other two pieces from Bullooh, Ruder Moodsuhar says,

“‘On the 12th May as I was taking the cattle to water I was startled by three very loud reports, and saw a light high up in the air which fell to the ground within three biggahs of where I was, I went up to the place from whence the sand had been raised up from the ground, and found five pieces of stone. They were very hot, and the sand all round was the same and thrown up all round there to the depth of a foot.

“‘There was a very small cloud where the report came from; it was otherwise clear, calm, and extremely hot. I was very much frightened, and sat down, being afraid to move.’

“On being further questioned, he said :—

“‘First there was the loud report and about the same time I saw the light, like a flame; then the stone fell; whilst falling it made a great noise, and after falling the sand was taken up high into the sky.’

“I have heard nothing further of the pieces which went to Goruckpore, but hope that you may have heard something of them yourself.

“Your’s truly,

“ (Sd.) T. F. PEPPE.”

The following letter received from the Magistrate of Goruckpore, announces the despatch of other fragments of the same fall for the Society’s Museum.

“TO THE SECY. ASIATIC SOCIETY,

Calcutta.

“SIR,—In reply to your letter No. 221, dated 11th June, 1861, I have the honour to inform you that I have this day forwarded the stone alluded to in a separate parcel by steamer.

“On the 12th May, 1861, at 5 P. M., the above stone and another piece, fell near Thanna Nimbooh situated at a distance of 42 miles North and East of this station.

“The fall of the stones* was attended with a great noise similar to that of cannon fire. The distance apart at which they fell was two miles, and on their fall they penetrated into the ground one cubit and half a cubit respectively, and an appearance of smoke was seen by the people to issue from the spot. After an interval of two hours a storm ensued, and it rained a little. At the time of the fall of the stones it is reported that the sky was clear.

“I have, &c.

“ (Signed) F. M. BIRD,

“ *Magistrate.*”

Goruckpore, 5th July, 1861.

Read the subjoined letter from Col. Sir G. Everest, on his election as an Honorary Member :—

To the Secy. Asiatic Society.

June, 25th, 1861, Hyde Park, W.

“DEAR SIR,—I have been prevented by indisposition and divers other causes, from earlier acknowledging the receipt of your letter of the 19th November, 1860, which duly reached me.

“I beg the favor of you to present to the Asiatic Society of Calcutta my respectful compliments and thanks for the honour they

* Both stones are sent by steamer.

have been pleased to confer on me, and for the very flattering terms in which they notice my humble labours in the prosecution of the Great Trigonometrical Survey of India.

“It must never be forgotten that by their publication in the proceedings of the Asiatic Society of Calcutta, the labours of my honoured predecessor, Colonel Lambton, first attracted the notice of the scientific world. Indeed, but for the patronage of that learned and eminent body, those celebrated operations might for ever have remained in obscurity; wherefore the gratitude and respect of myself and all connected with the Department of which I was for many years the chief, are especially due; and I request you will express for me to the Society how deeply I am and always have been impressed with this sentiment.

“I have, &c.

“(Signed) GEORGE EVEREST.”

Nawab Mohammed Khazim Ali Khan Bahadur, of Rampore, was balloted for and elected an ordinary member.

The following gentlemen were named for ballot at the next meeting:

Captain A. R. Fuller, Director of Public Instruction, Punjab; proposed by Lieutenant-Colonel Maelagan, seconded by Mr. H. S. Reid.

Dr. Clement Williams, H. M.'s 68th Regiment, Thyet Myo, proposed by the President, seconded by Mr. Oldham.

Babu Shumbhoo Chunder Roy, Zemindar of Rungpore; proposed by Babu Rajendra Lal Mitra, seconded by Mr. Atkinson.

Major P. Stewart, Bengal Engineers; proposed by the President, seconded by Col. Yule.

J. F. Coekburn, Esq., C. E.; proposed by Mr. Wilson, seconded by Mr. Oldham.

A. Tween, Esq., Geological Survey; proposed by Mr. Oldham, seconded by Mr. Medlieott.

Nawab Saiyid As'ghurally Khan Bahadur, of the Chitpore family; proposed by Moulvi Abdul Lutf Khan Bahadur, seconded by Mr. Atkinson.

Captain E. Davidson, Engineers; proposed by the Ven'ble Archdeacon Pratt, seconded by Lieut-Colonel Scott.

L. Griffin, Esquire, C. S. ; proposed by Mr. Cowell, seconded by Mr. Atkinson.

Lieut R. C. Beavan, late 62nd B. N. I. ; proposed by Mr. Atkinson, seconded by the President.

Communications were received :—

1. From the Under Secretary to the Government of India, copies of two letters from the Bombay Government, with reports on the eruption of a volcano on the African shore of the Red sea.

2. From Babu Radha Nath Sikdar, abstracts of Meteorological Observations taken at the Surveyor General's Office in January last.

3. From Mr. W. T. Blanford, contributions to Indian Malacology, No. II. by Messrs. W. T. and H. F. Blanford.

4. From Mr. E. Blyth, a paper containing Zoological notices and extracts.

5. From Colonel A. P. Phayre, a memo. on the countries between Thibet, Yunan and Burmah, by the Very Rev. Thomine de Mazure, Vicar Apostolic of Thibet.

Lieutenant-Colonel Yule read the paper communicated by Col. Phayre, Commissioner of Pegu, being a letter from T. de Mazure, Vicar Apostolic in Thibet, residing at the mission establishment of Bonga in a valley of the mountains separating the Loo-kiang from the Lantsang-kiang, in the extreme S. E. corner of Thibet, to the Right Rev. Bishop Bigandet, Vicar Apostolic in Pegu and Ava.

The Rev. Vicar Apostolic's letter was dated 9th August, 1859, and took about 10 months to reach Rangoon. The route by which it came was not stated.

He described the position of Bonga as above given, in about lat. 28° 15", and gave various particulars regarding the rivers flowing to the South. Commencing with the Loo-kiang called by him Loutskiang and going westward he mentioned the Kouts-kiang which appears from his description to be the Shweli, a tributary joining the Irrawadee below Bhamo, the Kanpo-dzanbo and the great Yarou-dzanbo, which he had no hesitation in identifying with the Irrawadee. He also mentioned Same, the village where the French fathers Krick and Boury were murdered in 1855, as only seven hard days' travelling west of Bonga. The letter concluded with a short description of a number of wild tribes in that region.

Col. Yule commented at some length on the paper. He pointed

out that it was necessary to distinguish, if possible, between what the Rev. Vicar Apostolic knew by personal observation or inquiry, and what was merely preconception derived from the maps in his possession. He showed that he was completely imbued with the notions regarding the rivers of Thibet which are set forth in the maps of Klaproth, and in Berghaus's map of Further India (1843), and was misled by these. The reasons for entirely rejecting the identity of the great Dzanbo and the Irrawadee were given shortly. The very fact that he attributed the locality of the murder of Krick and Boury to the banks of a river running into the Irrawadee was shown to disprove his notions, as the locality of that murder was known to be near the great Dihong in the Mishmi country. It was singular that the only common basis of geographical knowledge between British India and the Thibetan missionary should be the tragical murder of those two reverend fathers.

Major Dalton, formerly principal Assistant Commissioner at Lukhimpoor in Upper Assam, who was present at the meeting, then made some very interesting remarks from his intimate knowledge of that country and the tribes surrounding it. He corrected Colonel Yule's belief that the Missionaries had been murdered near the Dihong. They were actually on their way into Thibet by the route of the real or eastern Brahmaputra (above the Brahmakoond) and had reached a Thibetan village where they stopped some time, when they were murdered by Kesa a Mishmi chief.

Colonel Yule pointed out that this was a most valuable correction, and much more easily reconciled with the distance from Bonga on the Loo-kiang stated by M. de Mazure. It seemed to prove also that the Gakbo-dzangbo of the maps, the Kanpo of M. de Mazure, and the Kenpou of d'Anville was actually the eastern Brahmaputra.

Major Dalton mentioned that the hill people about the Dihong were uniform in their statement that the river came from Thibet. That river and the eastern Brahmaputra were the only rivers of Assam, they generally maintained, that did come from Thibet. He also mentioned a curious tradition among the people that some centuries ago the Dihong did not exist, but appeared suddenly in vast irruption through the mountains.

He spoke with authority on the subject of the murdered missionaries as the arrangements that led to the capture of the murderer

were made by him. He had been well acquainted with the two murdered men.

The Officiating Librarian submitted the usual monthly report.

LIBRARY.

The Library received the following additions since the last meeting.

Presented.

The Acanthaceæ of Ceylon.—BY DR. T. ANDERSON.

The Flowering plants of Aden.—BY THE SAME.

The Vividhārtha Sangraha, No. 74.—BY BABU KALIPROSANNO SINGH.

The Calcutta Christian Observer for July and August.—BY THE EDITOR.

History of Kashmir in Persian.—BY MAJOR G. G. PEARSE.

History (in Persian) of the Gulkur race of Hazara, the Panjab and Kashmir and the supposed descendants of the Satrap of Cyrus the Great.—BY THE SAME.

History of the district of Hazara, also in Persian.—BY THE SAME.

Journal Asiatique, Tome XVII. No. 66.—BY THE PARIS SOCIETY.

Natuurkundig Tijdschrift voor Nederlandsch, Deel XXII.—BY THE BATAVIAN SOCIETY.

Oriental Baptist for July.—BY THE EDITOR.

Oriental Christian Spectator for May.—BY THE EDITOR.

Proceedings of the Royal Geographical Society of London, Vol. 5, No. 2.—BY THE SOCIETY.

Proceedings of the Academy of Natural Sciences of Philadelphia.—BY THE ACADEMY.

Quarterly Journal of the Geological Society of London, Vol. 18, No. 66.—BY THE SOCIETY.

Report of the Bengal Chamber of Commerce from Nov., 1860 to April, 1861.—BY THE CHAMBER.

Second Report of the Municipal Commissioners of Calcutta.—BY THE COMMISSIONERS.

Selections from the Records of the Government of India (Foreign Dept.) Nos. 30, 31.—BY THE GOVERNMENT OF INDIA.

Selections from the Records of the Madras Government, No. 70.—BY THE MADRAS GOVERNMENT.

Theoretical Consideration and Tables in reference to Indian Hypsometry, being Part I of Vol. II. of the work on India and High Asia.—BY MESSRS. DE SCHLAGINTWEIT.

Roman Characters, being a pamphlet on the adaptation of the Roman Alphabet to Hindi and Urdu.—BY BABU SIVAPRASA'D.

Voigt's Hortus Suburbanus Calcuttensis.—BY MRS. BRANDIS.

Indische Studien, Vol. 5, Part I.—BY DR. WEBER.

Exchanged.

The Athenæum for May, 1861.

The Philosophical Magazine for June, with Supplement.

Purchased.

The Annals and Magazine of Natural History for June, Vol. 7, No. 42.

The American Journal of Science and Arts, for May, 1861, Vol. 19, No. 93

Comptes Rendus, Tome LI. Nos. 17 to 20 with Index of Tome LI.

Motanabbii Carmina cum Commentario Wahidii, Part V.

The Literary Gazette, Nos. 151 to 154.

Revue des Deux Mondes for 15th May and 1st June, 1861.

Revue et Magasin de Zoologie, No. 4 of 1861.

Turner's Embassy to Thibet.

Indische Studien, Vol. 5, Part 1.—By Dr. A. Weber.

On the Study of Sanskrit in relation to Missionary work in India, *pamphlet*.
—By Monier Williams.

LALGOPAL DUTT.

FOR SEPTEMBER, 1861.

The Monthly General Meeting of the Asiatic Society of Bengal was held on the 4th instant.

A Grote, Esq., President, in the chair.

The proceedings of the last meeting were read and confirmed.

Presentations were received—

1. From Prince Mohammad Jalaluddeen, two specimens of silver coins of his grandfather Tipu Sultan; they bear date 1216 Scil æræ novæ, 1787-S. A. D.

2. From the Director of Public Instruction, Bombay, copies of Bombay Government Selections No. 63 and "statement exhibiting the external trade of Sind for 1859-60."

3. From Babu Hitalál Misra, a copy of his edition of the Ráma Gíta in the Adhyátma Rámáyana of Brahmánda Purána.

4. From Mr. J. Obbard, a specimen of Iron Pyrites found in the Coast Battery excavations in Shakespear's Cliff at Dover.

5. From the Principal Grant Medical College, a copy of the Report of the College for 1860-61.

6. From Lieut W. P. Fisher, Dera Ismael Khan, the jaws and tongue preserved in spirit, and skin of a lizard supposed to be the *Biskopra*.

Read the following note from Mr. Obbard about the recent Comet:—

To the Secy. Asiatic Society.

DEAR SIR,—Herewith I have the pleasure to enclose a sketch of the track of the Comet of July last.

On the 7th of July, I received through the kindness of the President a telegram which he had received from Benares. Up to that time, I had not seen the Comet, and consequently had lost the opportunity of observing it during the most useful and brilliant period of its passage.

It was moreover very vexatious that from the nature of my duties at the time, I was unable to obtain any shore observations.

The following data therefore from which the track has been drawn, are mere sextant measurements,—which have all been reduced in the sketch to the hour of 9. p. m. for the sake of uniformity. The limit of error, may be calculated at from 15'' to 4' of arc according to the state of the weather. But as nothing more elaborate seems to have been forwarded to the Society, I am emboldened to submit these, as they may prove interesting, though not sufficiently accurate for scientific purposes.

Abstract of the measured positions of the Comet of July, 1861, referred to the stars in the constellation of Ursa Major.

Date.	Hour.	Star.	Mean Angle.	Hour.	Star.	Mean Angle.	Direction of Tail from
	h. m.		° ' ''	h. m.		° ' ''	
8	8 27	γ	13 33 40	8 34	η	13 15 47	a .
9	9 30	γ	15 06 50	9 15	η	11 14 40	Midway between a and β .
10	9 00	γ	16 40 00	9 22	η	9 43 45	Between a and β , one-fourth from a .
11	9 00	γ	17 59 00	8 58	η	8 46 30	As yesterday, parallel to $\delta \epsilon \zeta$.
12	9 05	γ	19 12 10	9 14	η	8 06 34	As yesterday.
13	8 33	β	26 23 27	8 25	η	7 50 10	As yesterday.
14	8 40	a	26 04 50	8 31	η	7 44 10	Midway between a and ζ .
15	8 24	ϵ	13 20 40	8 18	η	7 48 30	β .
16	8 33	a	28 02 50	8 26	η	7 59 40	β .

REMARKS.

(a.) Length of visible tail to the naked eye $12^{\circ} 12'$.

(b.) Visible tail $27^{\circ} 50'$; clear night.

(c.) Visible tail 12° .

(d.) Nucleus less bright but looming as large.

(e.) Visible tail 8° .

(f.) Visible tail 6° ; cloudy night, the worst observations of the series.

(g.) Visible tail 6° ; comet generally much more indistinct.

(h.) Visible tail 3° ; very faint and difficult to observe.

(i.) Little or no tail, clear night.

Latitude 21-51—45 N. } N. B.—Mean Time was used through-
 Longitude 88-08—15 E. } out. The centre of the Nucleus was
 always measured.

In another letter Mr. Obbard describes the appearance of another Comet observed in the Southern Hemisphere. He states—

“I beg to draw the attention of the Society to the following report of a Comet having been observed in the Southern Hemisphere, which has not, to the best of my knowledge, been noticed before. The extract for which I am indebted to Captain Hill, first Assistant to the Master Attendant, is copied *verbatim* on the other side, with this exception, that the correction for variation of the compass has been applied to convert the magnetic into true bearings. The speed with which the Comet must have travelled through the heavens appears most extraordinary, but from the entire absence of observations, the following report will only serve as a mere record of its appearance.

American Ship *Rival*, F. Hatch, Master, from Liverpool, bound to Calcutta, 1861.

May 30th, 5 A. M.—Saw a beautiful Comet bearing South South East. True-judged altitude 10° , latitude $25^{\circ} 32'$ S., longitude $22^{\circ} 53'$ W.

June 14th.—Saw it again at 4 A. M., bearing East, Latitude $38^{\circ} 08'$ S., Longitude $19^{\circ} 26'$ E., measured altitude $19^{\circ} 25'$.

June 16th.—At 4 A. M. saw it again bearing N. E. by E., judged altitude 30° , the tail 15° long and a little curved.

June 28th.—At about 3-30 A. M. saw it again. Latitude $33^{\circ} 01'$ S., Longitude $62^{\circ} 13'$ E., the tail much bushed (?). It was very cloudy all the time and stormy with a heavy sea.”

The following gentlemen duly proposed at the last meeting were balloted for and elected ordinary members :—

Captain A. R. Fuller ; Dr. C. Williams ; Baboo Shumbhoo Chunder Roy ; Major P. Stewart ; J. F. Coekburn, Esq., C. E. ; A. Tween, Esq., Nawab Saiyid As'ghur Ali Khan ; Captain E. Davidson ; L. Griffin, Esq., C. S. and Lieut. R. C. Beavan.

The following gentlemen were named for ballot at the next meeting :—

Sahabzadah Mohammad Walagohur of the Mysore family, proposed by Moulvi Abdul Lutf Khan Bahadur, seconded by Mr. Cowell.

Moonshee Suderooddeen of Pandooah, proposed by Huzrut Shah Kabiruddeen, seconded by the President.

Communications were received—

1. From the Under-Secy. to the Govt. of India in the Foreign Dept., a copy of a letter from the Bombay Government containing a report in continuation on the eruption of a Volcano on the African shore of the Red Sea.

2. From Babu Radha Nath Sikdar, Abstracts of Meteorological Observations taken at the Surveyor General's office, in February and March last.

Sir B. Frere read the following extracts from letters from Major Sarel, announcing his return from the expedition which started up the Yang-tse-Kiang in February last with the object of reaching India through Thibet :—

Extract from an official letter from Lieut.-Col. Sarel, 17th Lancers, dated Shanghai, China, 18th July 1861, to Colonel Haythorne, Adjutant-General H. M.'s Forces, Calcutta.

“ I have the honor to report my return to Shanghai with the N. C. officer and men of the 11th Punjab Infantry.

“ Sir Hope Grant granted me leave to take these men and to endeavour to proceed to India viâ Thibet, in February last, at the same time telling me that he would write to India to inform H. E. the Commander-in-Chief that I had obtained leave of absence.

“ I regret to have to state, that the expedition has proved unsuccessful so far as the route through Thibet is concerned, our party penetrated 1800 miles into the interior and then found the country so overrun with rebels, that no men could be induced to accompany us, and no carriage of any sort was procurable ; the towns-people in

one place fired upon us, and though they could not have prevented our proceeding, it became evident, that no one would be allowed to accompany us, and we were compelled to return.

“We have mapped the Yang-tse-Kiang for a thousand miles higher than any Europeans had ascended, and collected all the information possible relative to the commerce and rebels of Western China.

“The native soldiers before alluded to have been of the greatest service and their conduct has been most excellent; I beg to be allowed to bring them to His Excellency’s notice.

“(Sd.) H. A. SAREL,

“*Capt. and Bt. Lieut.-Colonel, 17th Lancers.*”

Extract from a private letter from Lieut.-Col. Sarel, dated 18th July, Shanghai, China, to Col. Haythorne, A. G. :—

“I am sorry to have to report my return from the west of China; I fully expected that our party would have been the first to penetrate across from China to India, and if it had not been for the rebels in the west, I think we should have had no difficulty.

“The mandarins evidently suspected us of being in league with the rebels, though we had passports and a mandarin with us. I do not think the mandarins who accompanied us, were of much service to us, as they were unwilling to peril their heads among the rebels, but even if the authorities had been anxious to help us, I think no orders of their’s would have induced the coolies to go with us; the western rebels are not connected with your Canton friends, the Taipings, but are large bands of robbers collected under four or five different leaders; the idea of the Yang-tse-Kiang being navigable to the west, must, I think be given up, though coal is to be had in any quantities.

“(Signed) H. A. SAREL.”

Mr. Cowell read a short account of a paper by M. Klaproth on the paper currency of China, as an Appendix to a paper on the subject of Asiatic paper currency, read by him before the Society last year.

The officiating Librarian submitted the usual monthly report.

LIBRARY.

The following additions were made to the Library since the meeting in August.

Presented.

Report of the Grant Medical College for 1860-61.—BY THE COLLEGE.
Rāma Gīta.—BY BABU HITALA’L MISRA.

The Indian Annals of Medical Science, No. XIV.—BY THE EDITORS.

Journal of the Statistical Society of London for June, Vol. XXIV. Part 2.
—BY THE SOCIETY.

Journal of the Royal Asiatic Society of London, Vol. XVIII. Part 2.
and Vol. XV. Part 1.—BY THE SOCIETY.

Statements exhibiting the External Trade of Sindh for 1859-60.—BY THE
DIRECTOR OF P. INSTRUCTION, BOMBAY.

Madras Journal of Literature and Science, New Series, Vol. VI. No. 11.
—BY THE MADRAS ROYAL ASIATIC SOCIETY.

Oriental Baptist for August.—BY THE EDITOR.

Oriental Christian Spectator for June.—BY THE EDITOR.

Selections from the Records of the Bombay Government, No. 62.—BY
THE BOMBAY GOVERNMENT.

Selections from the Records of the Government of India (Foreign Dept.)
No. 32.—BY THE GOVT. OF INDIA.

Zeitschrift der Deutschen Morgenlandischen Gesellschaft, Vol. 15, Part 2.
—BY THE SOCIETY.

Exchanged.

The Athenæum for June, 1861.

The Philosophical Magazine for July, No. 144.

Purchased.

The Annals and Magazine of Natural History for July, Vol. 8, No. 43.

Annales des Sciences Naturelles—Botany, Nos. 5 and 6; Zoology, Nos.
2 to 6.

Kritische Grammatik der Sanskrita Sprache.—By F. Bopp.

The French Translation of the Bhagabadgita.—By E'mile Burnouf.

Comptes Rendus, Tome LII. Nos. 21 to 24.

Dozy's Histoire des Musulmans D'Espagne, Vols. 1 and 2.

The Edinburgh Review for July, No. 231.

Journal des Savants for May, 1861.

Vikramorvaçi of Kálidása, translated into French by P. E. Foucaux.

The Literary Gazette, Nos. 155 to 159.

Letellier's Les Lois de la Parole.

Martin's Civilisations Primitives en Orient.

Natural History Review for July, No. 3 of 1861.

Neumann's Ostasiatische Geschichte.

Revue des Deux Mondes for 15th June and 1st July, 1861.

Revue et Magasin de Zoologie, No. 5 of 1861.

Reeve's Conchologia Iconica, Parts 208 and 209.

The Westminster Review for July, 1861.

Wahrmund's Handbuch der neu-Arabischen Sprache.

Zamakhsario's Al-Mufussal, edited by J. P. Broch.

المقصل فى العجوة العلامة الزمخشوري

LALGOPAL DUTT.

FOR OCTOBER 1861.

The monthly general meeting of the Asiatic Society of Bengal was held on the 2nd instant.

Babu Rájendralál Mitra, Vice-President, in the chair.

Presentations were received—

1. From the Secretary to the Government of India, Public Works Department, a copy of Colonel Sir P. T. Cautley's report on the Ganges Canal.

2. From Mr. J. Obbard, some genealogical tables (in Persian) of the principal Mahomedan saints, and of the Arsacidan and Sassanian dynasties.

3. From His Excellency the Governor-General, two sandstone sculptures (one of them a little mutilated) representing Buddha, found among the remains of Kurun Bil near Jubbulpore.

4. From F. M. Bird, Esq., Magistrate of Goruckpore, two fragments of the meteorite which fell on the 12th May last, at a distance of 42 miles N. and E. of his station; the larger weighing above 45½ lbs. avoirdupois.

Read the following letter from Mr. J. Obbard, containing some further particulars of the comet described in his former communication:—

E. B. COWELL, Esq.,

Secy. Asiatic Society.

“SIR,—On the last meeting of the Asiatic Society, I had the pleasure of forwarding you an extract from the log of the American ship *Rival*, recording the appearance of a strange comet in the Southern hemisphere.

“From another paper which I have received this day, there can be no doubt that this comet is one and the same with that which has been observed in the Northern hemisphere, but that it was observed

previously to its crossing the plane of the earth's orbit. It is to be hoped that accurate observations may yet reach us from the Cape or Mauritius.

I remain, &c.,

“(Sd.) J. OBBARD.”

The enclosed extract is from the log of the British ship *Saladin*, Captain James Baillie, and I am indebted for it also to Captain Hill, First Assistant Master Attendant.

8th June, 1861.—Ship lat. 40° S., long. 10° E. at 5 A. M. a fine Comet visible to the eastward, alt. about 40° . Nucleus equal to star of second magnitude; consider its R. A. 4h. and Dec. 33° S., it bearing about 34° N. N. E. from Canopus and 37° N. W. by W. from Eridani Depernon.

22nd June.—Comet moved to N. W. Eastward and increased in size to double that of Jupiter, Its tail 50° to 60° long but partly absorbed in moon's light. R. A. about 4h. 30m.; Dec. about 15° S.; from Canopus about 44° , and Eridani 53° . Ship's lat. 38° S., long. 62° E.

27th June.—Comet now passing through constellation Orion and two-thirds as large, apparently, as the full moon. R. A. about 5h. Dec. 7° N., bearing 4° or 5° from Bellatrix and about 13° from Aldeberan, evidently travelling fast to the N. N. East. Ship's lat. 30° S., long. 77° E.

Memo.—Did not see it again as it merged into the rising Sun's rays.

But on the evening of 5th July in lat. 5° S., long. 83° E., saw what I imagine to be the same brilliant comet, about 6° N. N. E. of the Northernmost pointer, “Dubhe;” truly, a grand object, and seen at the same time as Venus, (near the setting sun) Jupiter, and Saturn, but much larger than either.

6th July.—Comet moved into such a position as would be taken by the hat of the celestial “Waggoner of Charles' Wain.”

The following is an extract from the *Cape Argus* newspaper of the 4th June:—

Comet observed at 5 A. M. of the 3rd June on the Eastern horizon, Right Ascension, 3h. 58m. 30s. South Declination, 30° 10.'

It now equals a star of $2\frac{1}{2}$ magnitude, and has a tail of 3° in length inclined to the South pole.

The following gentlemen duly proposed at the last meeting were balloted for and elected ordinary members :

Sahebzadah Mohammad Walagohur of the Mysore family, and Moonshi Sudder-oo-ddeen.

The following gentlemen were named for ballot at the next meeting :—

Captain M. Lloyd, Deputy Commissioner of Tounghoo, proposed by Lieutenant-Colonel A. P. Phayre, seconded by Mr. Atkinson.

R. H. Davies, Esq., Secretary to Punjab Government, proposed by Lieutenant-Colonel Maelagan, seconded by Mr. D. F. Macleod.

The Council recommended that Mr. F. E. Hall's proposal be accepted to edit in the *Bib. Indica* the *Sánkhya Sára* by Vijnána Bhikshu, and the *Nátya S'ástra* of Bharata ; each work will occupy one fasciculus. The former is an important treatise on the Sánkhya philosophy. The latter is part of Bharata's very rare work, which, though often quoted by the old Hindú writers, Professor Wilson believed to be no longer extant—(Hindú Drama.—Introduction). Mr. Hall has never seen or heard of any besides his own single copy. The recommendation was adopted.

Communications were received :—

1. From Rev. Mr. Loewenthal, the following account of some of the sculptures in the Peshawur Museum.

The Peshawur Museum is gradually filling up with sculpture and haut-reliefs of Buddhist times, which are now and then found by the country people almost on the surface of the ground. The Buddhas, apparently, in every variety of size are almost innumerable. Then there are kings of various sizes, the ornaments of pearls and precious stones, on the head, neck, breast, and arms being usually the most elaborate parts of the figures. There is a lady sitting on a lion, playing the lute ; and other things. The haut-reliefs present every kind of scene—domestic, religious, warlike. There are interiors, apparently, of the harem ; there are scenes of worship and sacrifice ; there are elaborate figures of warriors in all kinds of dresses, sometimes purely Greek, sometimes purely oriental, sometimes a mixture of the two. There is one remarkable slab, lately brought from Nagram in Yusafzai, by Lieut. Short which might almost be a petrified Cartoon of the Punch of the period. That the artist meant it for a grotesque, the first glance is sufficient to convince one. The foreground of the

fragment—for it is only a fragment—is occupied by three figures ; the one on the right, of a European cast of countenance, and clad like a Macedonian soldier ; the helmet, however, being of a very peculiar shape. He is armed with a javelin and a short broad sword, and has a shield on his shoulder. The figure on the left is armed in a similar manner, a bow slung over his body being added, but has a turban instead of a helmet, and a heavy-folded *dhoti* under the tegulated armour which covers the abdomen. These two have pendant whiskers and moustaches, but the chin closely shaved. The middle figure has only a sword and a shield, and no armour ; the dress consists of a *dhoti*, and a twisted cloth tied in the manner of a scarf across the nude thorax ; the head is bare. The figure is smaller than the other two, and the features of the face are heavy and coarse. The rest of the slab is occupied by a number of men—as they seem to be, to judge by their limbs and by what is visible of their bodies, but with monkey faces of the greatest diversity of expression, and executed with much skill ; no two are alike. Some loll out their tongue, some have tusks, one puts his fingers into the corners of his mouth to make a grimace, one has two faces on one neck, one has some animal's head as his own head-covering, one has a face on his chest, etc. They are armed with clubs and formidable looking knives. No mere description can give a correct idea of this or of any of the other sculptures. I shall try to obtain drawings or photographs of some of the best, and send them to you, if it is thought worth while. The execution of most of them is quite different from anything purely Hindu or Asiatic. Most of these things have been found accidentally in various parts of the Peshawur and Yusafzai valleys ; some even within the cantonments of this place. Some pieces of pottery have also been found in the cantonment, stamped with figures of pure Greek designs. No systematic attempt at opening any of the mounds abounding in this region has yet been made, except by Lieutenant Johnston, Assistant Commissioner, who has been exploring one situated some two miles from the station ; but little has as yet come to light, besides a copper urn, in the shape of a common water-jar, containing nothing but fragments of bones and some lamina of mica. He has, however, laid bare pavements and steps of burnt brick, and obtained a sufficient number of sculptured cornices, friezes, pediments, statues, ornaments, &c., etc., all in

fragments, to show that the mound covers the ruins of a splendid building, which was destroyed with the utmost violence and by fire; also sufficient evidence to show that the place was built by Buddhists and destroyed by Mahomedans, for faces of persons are often much mutilated; a few coins have also been found, one of them of the reign of Lysias. The Yusafzai district, however, would most likely repay the trouble of exploration; the expense need not be very great; and yet it is not likely that anything can be done unless Government or the Society make an appropriation of funds, as few officers with sufficient leisure stay long enough here to undertake explorations on their own account.

• Inscriptions seem to be very scarce. There are two small stone urns in the Museum, one of which has an inscription.*

Mr. G. D. Westropp of Rawal Pindce, also sent me, sometime ago, an account of a discovery made eighteen miles to the North West of that station, near Shah Ke Dehri of the following articles:—

1. A circular stone trough about one foot in diameter and three inches in depth, beautifully turned and polished; the outer shape is that of a truncated cone. "The trough has three grooved circles diverging from the base of a small cone which rises about $1\frac{1}{2}$ inches from its centre." The vessel is about half an inch thick. The stone is of a dark green colour, interspersed with white spots, free from flaws or defects.

2. The trough contained a crystal figure inverted on the small centre cone, representing a duck with a turtle's head. It is delicately carved and in a state of good preservation. Within the figure there was a piece of gold leaf three inches by one, with an inscription, in relief and perfectly clear and distinct.

2. From Reverend Dr. W. S. Mackay "Notes on the Comet of 1861."

3. From Babu Rajendralal Mitra, a few notes with a translation of the Wardak inscription, and an account of Toramana.

4. From F. E. Hall, Esq., a paper on an inscription from Chedi.

5. From Lieutenant-Colonel Sarel, Notes on the river Yangtse-Kiang from Hankow to Pingshan.

6. From Babu Radhanath Sikdar, abstracts of Meteorological Observations taken at the Surveyor General's Office in April last.

* This inscription is with Babu Rajendralal Mitra.

Lieutenant-Colonel Yule read a paper about some Indian remains in Java. His remarks were illustrated by drawings of several of the most interesting ruins, and he compared the style of their architecture with that of the Burmese temples and some of the temples in India.

Sir Bartle Frere made some remarks on some of the ruins in Sindh, which bore an analogy to these Javanese remains.

The thanks of the meeting were voted to Lieutenant-Colonel Yule for his very interesting communication, which will be inserted at length in the Society's Journal.

The Officiating Librarian submitted the usual monthly report.

LIBRARY.

The following books and periodicals were added to the Society's Library since the last meeting.

Presented.

The Annals of Indian Administration.—BY THE BENGAL GOVT.

Annual Report of the Geological Survey of India for 1860-61.—BY THE CALCUTTA GEOLOGICAL MUSEUM.

Archiv für Kunde Österreichischer Geschichts-Quellen, Vols. 24 and 25.—BY THE SOCIETY.

Almanach der Kais : Academie der Wissenschaften.—BY THE ACADEMY.

Abhandlungen der philosophisch-philologischen Classe, Academie der Wissenschaften, IX. Bd. I. Abth.—BY THE SAME.

Ditto ditto der Philosophie Classe, Vol. 36.—BY THE SAME.

Annual Report on the Administration of the Straits Settlement for 1860-61.—BY THE BENGAL GOVT.

Annual Report on the Administration of the Provinces of Oude for 1860-61.—BY THE SAME.

The Vividhartha Sangraha, No. 75.—BY THE EDITOR.

Bulletin de l'Académie Impériale des Sciences de St. Petersburg, Tome I. Nos. 3 to 9, Tome II. Nos. 1, 2 and 3.—BY THE ST. PETERSBURGH ACADEMY.

Calcutta Christian Observer for September, 1861.—BY THE EDITORS.

Report on the Ganges Canal.—By Col. T. P. Cautley, Vols. 1, 2 and 3 with a book of plates, &c.—BY THE GOVT. OF INDIA.

Denkschriften der Kais : Academie der Wissenschaften, Vol. X.—Philosophie-Histoire Classe.—BY THE ACADEMY.

Fraser's Account of the Quinquina plantations in the Island of Java.—BY THE MADRAS GOVT.

Fontes Rerum Austriacarum, Vol. XX. Part 2.—BY THE VIENNA ACADEMY.

General Report on Public Instruction of the Lower Provinces of the Bengal Presidency for 1859-60.—BY THE DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC INSTRUCTION.

Gelehrte Anzeigen, Vols. 49, 50.—BY THE MUNICH ACADEMY.

Journal Asiatique, Tome XVII. Nos. 67, 68.—BY THE PARIS ASIATIC SOCIETY.

Journal of the Academy of Natural Sciences of Philadelphia, Vol. IV Part 4.—BY THE ACADEMY.

Jahrbuch der Geologischen Reichsanstalt Vol. XI. No. 1.—BY THE VIENNA GEOLOGICAL MUSEUM.

Descriptio Al-Magribi By M. Do Goeje.—BY THE LUGDUNE-BATAVIAN ACADEMY.

Kitab ul Boldan Al-Jaqubii.—BY THE SAME.

Memoires de l'Academie Imperiale des Sciences de St. Petersburg, Tome II. Nos. 1 to 7, Tome III. No. 1.—BY THE ACADEMY.

Memorie della Reale Accademia delle Scienze di Torino, Vol. XVIII.—BY THE ACADEMY.

Memoires of the Geological Survey of India, Vol. III. Part 1, with a map.—BY THE GEOLOGICAL MUSEUM.

Notice of the Origin, Progress and Present Condition of the Academy of Natural Sciences of Philadelphia, 1860.—BY THE ACADEMY.

Oriental Baptist for September.—BY THE EDITOR.

Oriental Christian Spectator for July and August.—BY THE EDITOR.

Proceedings of the Royal Geographical Society of London, Vol. V. No. 3.—BY THE SOCIETY.

Proceedings of the Royal Society of London, Vol. XI. No. 44.—BY THE SOCIETY.

Proceedings of the Royal Society of Edinburgh, Vol. IV. No. 50.—BY THE SOCIETY.

Proceedings of the Zoological Society of London from January to March, 1861.—Part I.—BY THE ZOOLOGICAL SOCIETY.

Report on the Survey Operations of the Lower Provinces for 1860.—BY THE BENGAL GOVT.

Report on the Administration of the Madras Presidency for 1860-61.—BY THE SAME.

Report on the Administration of the Tenasserim and Martaban Provinces for 1860-61.—BY THE SAME.

Ditto ditto of the Provinces of Pegu for 1860-61.—BY THE SAME.

Ditto ditto of Hyderabad, Assigned Districts for 1860-61.—BY THE SAME.

Remarks on Native Education in India in a Psychological point of view.—BY DR. S. G. CHUCKERBUTTY.

Sitzungsberichte der Konigl.-Bayerl.-Akademie der Wissenschaften zu Munchen, Hefts 1 to 3 for 1860.—BY THE ACADEMY.

A Month in the Cotton Districts—being a visit in the Districts about Bursee. By W. C. Sillar.—BY THE AUTHOR.

Schriften der Koniglichen Physikalisch—Okonomischen Gesellschaft zu Konigsberg Academie &c. Vol. 1, Parts I and 2.—BY THE ACADEMY.

Sitzungsberichte der Kais.-Academie der Wissenschaften Philoso-Historio Classe, Vol. 32, Nos. 9 and 10, Vol. 33, Nos. 1 and 2, Vol. 34, Nos. 3 to 5, Vol. 35, Nos. 6 to 9.—BY THE ACADEMY.

Ditto ditto Mathematische Classe, Vol. 39, Nos. 1 to 6, Vol. 40, Nos. 7 to 12, Vol. 41, Nos. 13 to 20, Vol. 42, Nos. 21 to 26.—BY THE ACADEMY.

Transactions of the Royal Society of Edinburgh, Vol. XXII. Part 2, with an Appendix containing Markstoun observations, being a Supplement to Vol. XXII.—BY THE SOCIETY.

Transactions of the Zoological Society of London, Vol. IV. Part 2.—BY THE ZOOLOGICAL SOCIETY.

Transactions of the Government of India in the Military Department for 1860-61.—BY THE BENGAL GOVT.

Kongliga Svenska Fregatten Eugenie's Resa, No. 7., Zoologi, No. 4.—BY THE AUTHOR.

Martins' Denkrede auf Alexander von Humboldt.—BY THE MUNICH ACADEMY.

Rede auf Sir Thomas Babington Macaulay. By Dr. G. Thomas von Rudhart.—BY THE SAME.

Verzeichniss der Mitglieder der K. B. Academie der Wissenschaften, 1860.—BY THE SAME.

Grenzen und Grenzgebiete der Physiologischen Forschung.—BY THE SAME.

Prof. Muller's Einleitende Worte zur des Feier Majestats des Konigs Maximilian, II.—BY THE SAME.

Exchanged.

The Athenæum for July, 1861.

The Philosophical Magazine for August, 1861.

Purchased.

The Annals and Magazine of Natural History, Vol. 8, No. 44.

The American Journal of Sciences and Arts, Vol. XIX. No. 94.

Annuaire des Deux Mondes for 1860.

Annales des Sciences Naturelles, Vol. XIV. No. 1.

Burnouf's Methode la langue Sanserite.

Comptes Rendus, Tome LII. No. 25 and Tome LIII. Nos. 1 to 4.

Freytag's Einleitung in das Studium der Arabischen Sprache.

Journal des Savants for June and July, 1861.

The Literary Gazette, Nos. 160, 162 and 163.

The Quarterly Review for July, 1861.

Revue des Deux Mondes for 15th July and 1st August, 1861.

Revue et Magasin de Zoologie, Nos. 6 and 7 of 1861.

Sacy's *Mélanges de Littérature Orientale*, Par Le Due de Broglie.

Zenker's *Bib. Orientalis*, Vol. II.

LALGOPAL DUTT.

FOR NOVEMBER, 1861.

The monthly General Meeting of the Asiatic Society of Bengal was held on the 6th instant.

Lieut.-Col. H. L. Thuillier, Vice-President, in the chair.

Presentations were received—

1. From Babu Rajendra Mulliek, dead specimens of a Fallow Deer and a Cape Baboon.
2. From Mr. Cowell, a copy of Part I. of *Bhámíni Bilása*, edited by Pundit Jadu Náth Mookerjee.
3. From the Surveyor General's Office, a new map of India, (small scale).
4. From Mr. J. J. T. H. Asphar, a small collection of shells, collected chiefly in Ceylon and Malta.

Read a letter from Major T. James, intimating his desire to withdraw from the Society.

The following gentlemen duly proposed at the last meeting were balloted for, and elected ordinary members:—

Capt. M. Lloyd, and R. H. Davies, Esq.

The following gentlemen were named for ballot at the next meeting:—

Major H. R. James, C. B., Commissioner of Peshawur, and M. Kempson, Esq., Principal of Bareilly College, proposed by Lieutenant-Colonel Maelagan, seconded by Mr. H. S. Reid.

C. B. Saunders, Esq., C. S., Judicial Commissioner at Bangalore, proposed by the President, seconded by Lieutenant-Colonel Thuillier.

Captain W. A. Ross, Bengal Artillery, proposed by Mr. H. F. Blanford, seconded by Lieutenant-Colonel Thuillier.

Communications were received—

1. From N. R. Pogson, Esq., F. R. A. S., Government Astronomer, Madras, a paper on the discovery of the New Planet "*Asia*."

2. From the Under-Secretary to the Government of India, Foreign Department, papers containing the translation of a report (sent through the Government of Bombay) of a visit to the volcano of Jebbel Dubbeh by a Somali named Hussein Arraleh.

3. From Babu Radha Nath Sikdar, abstracts of Meteorological Observations taken at the Surveyor General's Office in May last.

The Secretary read the two first papers.

Mr. Blanford read an abstract of his paper on the Spiti fossils. Commencing by stating that the collection of fossils described in the paper had been collected in the year 1828, by Dr. Gerard, since which time they had lain undescribed in the Society's Museum, Mr. Blanford proceeded to describe the portion of the fossiliferous rocks of the north flank of the Himálaya so far as it was known at present from the writings of M. Jaquemont and Col. Strachey. He noticed the discovery at the Niti Pass of fossils of the age of the Oxford clay by the latter, which fossils had been examined and pronounced upon by Professor Edward Forbes. M. Jaquemont had collected fossils also in the Spiti valley, but his collection still remained undescribed in the Museum of the Jardin des Plantes at Paris.

Dr. Gerard's collection from Spiti consisted chiefly of Cephalopoda. There were also a few Gasteropoda and Conchifera and one Echinoderm. The indications of age presented by the collection were, that while the majority were closely allied to or identical with fossils of the upper Lias and inferior Oolite of Europe, a minority were equally characteristic of Triassic, middle and upper Oolitic faunas, and one specimen, an Echinoderm, appeared to belong to a genus characteristic of the chalk. The inference to be drawn from those was, that while beds of Liassic or inferior Oolitic age certainly existed at Spiti, it remained open to future observers who visited Spiti to decide whether the other fossils were really from distinct formations, or indicated the co-existence in Asiatic Seas of animals which in Europe lived at distant periods of time. A member of the Geological Survey, Mr. W. Theobald, junior, had lately visited Spiti, and it was to be hoped that his investigations might decide the above point.

The thanks of the meeting were unanimously accorded to Mr. Blanford for his valuable paper.

The Officiating Librarian submitted the usual monthly report.

LIBRARY.

The following are the accessions to the Library since the meeting held in October last.

Presented.

The Annual Report of the Geological Survey of India for 1859-60.—BY THE BENGAL GOVT.

The Calcutta Christian Observer for October.—BY THE EDITOR.

The Calcutta Review for June.—BY THE EDITOR.

Prison Returns of the N. W. Provinces for 1860.—BY THE GOVT. N. W. PROVINCES.

Botanical Descriptions of the Species of *Cinchona* now growing in India and China.—BY THE MADRAS GOVT.

Journal of the Statistical Society of London for September.—BY THE SOCIETY.

Journal of the Agricultural and Horticultural Society of India, Vol. XII. Part I.—BY THE SOCIETY.

Memoirs of the Geological Survey of India, Vol. II. Part II. and Vol. III. Part I.—BY THE BENGAL GOVT.

Map of India (small scale) showing Railway and Telegraph Stations.—BY THE SURVEYOR GENERAL OF INDIA.

Meteorological Observations for Hobart Town from 1841 to 1860.—BY THE ROYAL SOCIETY OF TASMANIA.

Oriental Christian Spectator for September.—BY THE EDITOR.

Proceedings of the Royal Geological Society of London, Vol. V. No. 4.—BY THE SOCIETY.

Proceedings of the Royal Society of London, Vol. XI. No. 45.—BY THE SOCIETY.

Papers regarding culturable waste lands at the disposal of Government.—BY THE BENGAL GOVT.

Quarterly Journal of the Geological Society of London, Vol. 18, No. 67. BY THE SOCIETY.

Cultivation of Quina Tree in Java in 1859.—BY THE MADRAS GOVT.

Selections from the Records of the Bombay Government, No. 63, new series.—BY THE BOMBAY GOVT.

Selections from the Records of the Government of India, Foreign Department, No. 34.—BY THE GOVT. OF INDIA.

Selections from the Records of the Madras Government, Nos. 68 and 69.—BY THE SAME.

Bhámíni Bilása, Part I.—BY MR. E. B. COWELL.

Exchanged.

The Athenæum for August.

The Philosophical Magazine for September.

Purchased.

The Annals and Magazine of Natural History, Vol. VIII. No. 45, for September.

Analectes sur L'Histoire et La Littérature des Arabes D'Espagne by Al-Makkari, Vols. 1 and 2.

Annales des Sciences Naturelles, Vol. XIV. No. 3.

Abdul Razzák's Rokáyeat Jámi. *رقعات جامي مولفه عبدالرزاق*

Brockhaus' Die Lieder des Hafis, Vol. 3, Part 3.

Benfey's Orient und Occident, Vol. I. Part 3.

Bohtlingk and Roth's Sanscrit Wörterbüch, 1851-60.

Franck's Études Orientales.

Juynboll's Abu'l Mahasin, Vol. 2, Part 2.

Reeve's Conchologia Iconica, Parts 210 and 211.

Revue des Deux Mondes for 15th August and 1st September.

Comptes Rendus, Vol. LIII. Nos. 5 to 8.

The Literary Gazette, Nos. 164 to 168.

LALGOPAL DUTT.

FOR DECEMBER, 1861.

The monthly General Meeting of the Asiatic Society of Bengal was held on the 4th instant.

A. Grote, Esq., President, in the chair.

The proceedings of the last meeting were read and confirmed.

Presentations were received—

1. From Mr. W. Theobald, Junior, a box containing specimens of a Lagomys, a Lemming and some lizards.

2. From Captain W. A. Ross, a specimen of the Albatross.

3. From the same, a copy of Colonel Sleeman's Report on Budhuk *alias* Bagree Dacoits.

4. From Dr. H. Cleghorn, a copy of his paper on the subject of an expedition undertaken by him to the higher ranges of the Anamalia Hills, Coimbatore, in 1858, being an extract from the transactions of the Royal Society of Edinburgh, Vol. XXII. Part II.

5. From Major R. C. Tytler, a pamphlet entitled,—*Description D'Oiseaux Nouveaux de la Nouvelle Calédonie, par M. M. J. Verreaux et O'Des Murs*, being an extract from the *Revue et Magasin De Zoologie*, for September, 1860.

6. From the Bengal Government, a copy of the selections from the records of the Bengal Government, No. 38.

7. From the Ven'ble J. H. Pratt, a copy of each of his treatises on the Figure of the earth and "Scripture and Science not at variance."

8. From Lieut.-Col. A. Fyfehe, Commissioner of Martaban and Tenasserim Provinces, a skeleton of an adult male of one of the aborigines of the Andaman Islands.

With reference to this presentation, the following letter has been received :—

Maulmain, 1st November, 1861.

SIR,—I have the pleasure to present to the Asiatic Society a skeleton of an adult male of one of the aborigines of the Andaman Group of Islands, one of the three who were lately captured in the vicinity of Port Blair, and who died at Maulmain a short time ago.

In my note on these people, forwarded to the Society in the latter end of May last, I stated my belief that their reputed similarity to the true African Negro had been much exaggerated, giving my reasons for such at length, and what I considered to be their origin. The Society will no doubt be able to determine distinctly from the bones now sent, whether these people are true aborigines or belonging to the African Negro race as formerly represented.

I remain, dear Sir,

Yours sincerely,

(Sd.) A. FYTCHE, LIEUT.-COL.

Letters from Messrs. W. S. Halsey and A. Payne expressing their desire to withdraw from the Society were recorded.

The following gentlemen, duly proposed at the last meeting, were balloted for and elected ordinary members :—

Major H. R. James, C. B.

M. Kempson, Esq.

C. B. Saunders, Esq., C. S.

Captain W. A. Ross, Bengal Artillery.

The following gentlemen were named for ballot at the next meeting :—

Major D. Briggs (for re-election) proposed by the President, seconded by Colonel Yule.

G. E. Ward, Esq., C. S, proposed by Mr. Cowell, seconded by the President.

W. King, Esq., Junior, Geological Survey of India, proposed by Mr. T. Oldham, seconded by Mr. J. G. Medlicott.

Communications were received—

1. From Babu Radha Nath Sikdar, Abstracts of Meteorological Observations taken at the Surveyor General's Office, in June last.

2. From Mr. F. E. Hall, a paper on the vestiges of three Royal lines of Kanouj.

The President informed the meeting of the appointment by Government of Colonel A. Cunningham on an Archæological Mission which might be expected to occupy him for the next two years and in the course of which the Colonel intended to explore the interesting district of Behar. He invited Mr. Bayley to read extracts from a letter in which Colonel Cunningham sketched his plans for the ensuing cold weather.

Mr. Bayley stated that from a private letter he understood it to be Colonel Cunningham's intentions to devote the present cold season to the examination of Behar and especially to the exploration of the sites of the ancient cities of Vaisali and Kusinagara and of some unopened *topes* in their vicinity. Mr. Bayley added that Colonel Cunningham's letter also announced his acquisition of an extremely curious silver coin of the Indo-Parthian group. Mr. Bayley concluded by expressing his views regarding this class of coins and the relation of the kings by whom they were struck to the Bactrian and Indo-Scythian Kings of Upper India.

The Officiating Librarian submitted the usual monthly report.

LIBRARY.

The following books and periodicals were added since the November meeting.

Presented.

The Vividhartha Sangraha, No. 76.—BY THE EDITOR.

The Calcutta Christian Observer for November.—BY THE EDITOR.

Prison Return of the N. W. Proviuces for 1860.—BY THE GOVT. N. W. PROVINCES.

Expedition to the Higher Ranges of the Anamalia Hills, Coimbatore, in 1858. By Dr. H. Cleghorn.—BY THE AUTHOR.

Description D'Oiseaux Nouveaux de la Nouvelle Caledonie, par M. M. J. Verreaux et O'Des Murs.—BY MAJOR R. C. TYTLER.

Journal Asiatique, Tome XVIII. No. 69.—BY THE ASIATIC SOCIETY OF PARIS.

Journal of the Royal Asiatic Society of London, Vol. XIX. Part I.—BY THE SOCIETY.

Journal of Sacred Literature and Biblical Record, Vol. XIV. No. 27.—BY THE EDITORS.

Purána Sangraha, Parts 3 to 6.—BY BABU K. P. SINGH.

Memoirs of the Geological Survey of India, Paleontologia Indica, Vol. I., Part I. containing descriptions of the Cretaceous Cephalopoda of S. India, By Mr. H. F. Blanford.—BY THE GOVT. OF INDIA.

The Oriental Baptist for November.—BY THE EDITOR.

The Figure of the Earth. By Archdeacon Pratt.—BY THE AUTHOR.

Scripture and Science not at variance.—BY THE SAME.

Report on the Cholera in the Delhi Division, No. 8.—BY THE PUNJAB GOVERNMENT.

Report (fifth) of the Council of the International Association.—BY THE ASSOCIATION.

Report of the Oriental Translation Committee for 1861.—BY THE TRANSLATION COMMITTEE.

Selections from the Records of the Government N. W. Proviuces, No: 34.—BY THE GOVT. N. W. P.

Selections from the Records of the Bengal Government, No. 38.—BY THE BENGAL GOVT.

Sleeman's Report on Budhuk *alias* Bagree Decoits.—BY CAPT. W. A. ROSS.
Exchanged.

The Athenæum for September.

The Philosophical Magazine for October.

Purchased.

The Annals and Magazine of Natural History for October, Vol. VIII. No. 46.

The American Journal of Sciences and Arts, Vol. XIX. No. 95, for September.

The Natural History Review for October.

Revue et Magasin de Zoologie, No. 8 of 1861.

Revue des Deux Mondes for 15th September and 1st October.

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LALGOPAL DUTT.
